

## **COMMUNITY POLICE REVIEW COMMISSION POLICY RECOMMENDATION**

RPD Policy and Procedures 4.15  
Personnel Complaint Policy

### **Rationale for the Policy Recommendation:**

The Community Police Review Commission believes that RPD Policy and Procedure 4.15, Report Writing, should be modified with regard to cases of alleged child abuse or neglect. We feel that even when there is no sign of child abuse or neglect, a report should be written to reflect the actions and observations of the officer in determining that no crime was committed. The Commission believes that such a policy modification will 1) start a paper trail that will document potential neighborhood problems other than the alleged child abuse or neglect and, 2) will help shield the officer and the Department from charges that they “did nothing” if, at a later date, a child abuse or neglect crime does occur.

### **Policy Recommendation:**

1. The Community Police Review Commission recommends that the Riverside Police Department modify Policy and Procedure Section 4.15 to reflect that a report will be written in all cases where child abuse and/or neglect are alleged. In cases where there is no evidence that a crime has occurred, the officer should document the actions he took and observations he made in making that determination.

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William Howe, Chairperson  
Community Police Review Commission

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